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FAX NO.

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Docket No.: END920000187US1

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Hall et al.

Examiner: Dinh, T.

Serial No.: 09/884,778

Art Unit: 2841

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Filing Date: 6/19/01

**MAR 03 2005**

**Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS TO ESTABLISH CIRCUIT LAYERS  
INTERCONNECTIONS**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**BRIEF OF APPELLANTS**

This Appeal Brief, pursuant to the Notice of Appeal filed January 5, 2005, is an appeal from the rejection by the Examiner in the Office Action dated October 6, 2004.

**REAL PARTY IN INTEREST**

International Business Machines, Inc. is the real party in interest.

**RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES**

None.

**STATUS OF CLAIMS**

Claims 1-20, 25, and 26 are withdrawn. Claims 33-34 are canceled. Claims 21, 22, 24, 27, 28, 31 and 36-39 are rejected. Claims 23, 29, 30, 32, and 35 are allowed. The rejection of

09/884,778

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